

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph. Per 37 C.F.R. §1.121, this paragraph is also shown in Appendix A with notations to indicate the changes made.

Colorants that showed good contrast between the initial color and the color after exposure to hydrogen peroxide vapor are Malachite green oxalate, Methyl violet 2B, New fuchsin, Quinea green B, Thionin, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, and Alkali blue 6B.

#### **In the Claims**

Please amend claims 1-3, 5, 10-13, 15, and 21, cancel claim 22, and add claim 23. The new and amended claims are provided below in clean form. Per 37 C.F.R. §1.121, new and amended claims are also shown in Appendix A with notations to indicate changes made (for convenience, all pending claims are provided in Appendix A).

1. (AMENDED) A hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator comprising a substrate and an indicator composition disposed thereon, wherein the indicator composition comprises at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of Ethyl violet, New fuchsin, Victoria blue B, Victoria pure blue BO, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Disperse blue 1, Brilliant blue R, Victoria blue R, Quinea green B, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Brilliant green, Spirit soluble HLK BASF, Victoria green S extra, Acid violet 17, Eriochrome black T, Eriochrome blue black B, D & C green no. 2, Spirit soluble fast RR, Spirit soluble fast red 3B, D & C red no. 22, Nitro red, Congo red, Brilliant cresyl blue ALD, Arsenazo 1, Basic red 29, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Mordant brown 1, Reactive black 5, Mordant brown 48, Acid brown AX987, Acid violet AX990, Basic red 15, Mordant red 19, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof.

2. (AMENDED) The hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator of claim 1, wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of New fuchsin, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Quinea green B, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Brilliant green, Victoria green S extra, Eriochrome blue black B, Congo red, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof.

3. (AMENDED) The hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator of claim 2, wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of New fuchsin, Quinea green B, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Congo red, Eriochrome blue black B, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet 3RAX, and combinations thereof.

5. (AMENDED) The hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator of claim 1, wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of Ethyl violet, New fuchsin, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Disperse blue 1, Brilliant blue R, Quinea green B, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Brilliant green, Spirit soluble HLK BASF, Victoria green S extra, Acid violet 17, Eriochrome black T, Eriochrome blue black B, D & C green no. 2, Spirit soluble fast RR, Spirit soluble fast red 3B, D & C red no. 22, Nitro red, Congo red, Brilliant cresyl blue ALD, Arsenazo 1, Basic red 29, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Mordant brown 1, Reactive black 5, Mordant brown 48, Acid brown AX987, Acid violet AX990, Mordant red 19, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof.

10. (AMENDED) A hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator comprising a substrate and an indicator composition disposed thereon, wherein the indicator composition comprises a binder, at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of Ethyl violet, New fuchsin, Victoria blue B, Victoria pure blue BO, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Disperse blue 1, Brilliant blue R, Victoria blue R, Quinea green B, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Brilliant green, Spirit soluble HLK BASF, Victoria green S extra, Acid violet 17, Eriochrome

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black T, Eriochrome blue black B, D & C green no. 2, Spirit soluble fast RR, Spirit soluble fast red 3B, D & C red no. 22, Nitro red, Congo red, Brilliant cresyl blue ALD, Arsenazo 1, Basic red 29, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Mordant brown 1, Reactive black 5, Mordant brown 48, Acid brown AX987, Acid violet AX990, Basic red 15, Mordant red 19, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof, and at least one colorant that does not change color upon contact with hydrogen peroxide vapor.

*11. (AMENDED)* A method of monitoring a hydrogen peroxide sterilization process, the method comprising exposing an article to be sterilized and a hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator to a sterilant vapor consisting essentially of hydrogen peroxide, wherein the hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator comprises a substrate and an indicator composition disposed thereon, wherein the indicator composition comprises at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of Malachite green oxalate, Crystal violet, Methyl violet 2B, Ethyl violet, New fuchsin, Victoria blue B, Victoria pure blue BO, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Disperse blue 1, Brilliant blue R, Victoria blue R, Quinea green B, Thionin, Meldolas blue, Methylene green, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Brilliant green, Spirit soluble HLK BASF, Victoria green S extra, Acid violet 17, Eriochrome black T, Eriochrome blue black B, D & C green no. 2, Spirit soluble fast RR, Spirit soluble fast red 3B, D & C red no. 22, Nitro red, Congo red, Brilliant cresyl blue ALD, Arsenazo 1, Basic red 29, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Mordant brown 1, Reactive black 5, Mordant brown 48, Acid brown AX987, Acid violet AX990, Basic red 15, Mordant red 19, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof.

12. (AMENDED) The method of claim 11, wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of Malachite green oxalate, Methyl violet 2B, New fuchsin, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Quinea green B, Thionin, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Brilliant green, Victoria green S extra, Eriochrome blue black B, Congo red, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof.

13. (AMENDED) The method of claim 12, wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of Malachite green oxalate, Methyl violet 2B, New fuchsin, Quinea green B, Thionin, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Congo red, Eriochrome blue black B, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet 3RAX, and combinations thereof.

15. (AMENDED) The method of claim 11, wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of Ethyl violet, New fuchsin, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Disperse blue 1, Brilliant blue R, Quinea green B, Thionin, Meldolas blue, Methylene green, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Brilliant green, Spirit soluble HLK BASF, Victoria green S extra, Acid violet 17, Eriochrome black T, Eriochrome blue black B, D & C green no. 2, Spirit soluble fast RR, Spirit soluble fast red 3B, D & C red no. 22, Nitro red, Congo red, Brilliant cresyl blue ALD, Arsenazo 1, Basic red 29, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Mordant brown 1, Reactive black 5, Mordant brown 48, Acid brown AX987, Acid violet AX990, Mordant red 19, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof.

21. (AMENDED) The hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator of claim 1, wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of Ethyl violet, New fuchsin, Victoria blue B, Victoria pure blue BO, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Disperse blue 1, Brilliant blue R, Victoria blue R, Quinea green B, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Spirit soluble HLK BASF, Victoria green S extra, Acid violet 17, Eriochrome black T, Eriochrome blue black B, D & C green no. 2, Spirit soluble fast RR, Spirit soluble fast red 3B, D & C red no. 22, Nitro red, Congo red, Brilliant cresyl blue ALD, Arsenazo 1, Basic red 29, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Mordant brown 1, Reactive black 5, Mordant brown 48, Acid brown AX987, Acid violet AX990, Basic red 15, Mordant red 19, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof.

23. (NEW) A hydrogen peroxide sterilization indicator comprising a substrate and an indicator composition disposed thereon, wherein the indicator composition consists essentially of a binder, an optional colorant that does not change color upon contact with hydrogen peroxide, an optional dispersing agent, an optional opacifying agent, an optional surfactant, an optional plasticizer, an optional antifoam agent, an optional basic material, and at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of Malachite green oxalate, Ethyl violet, New fuchsin, Victoria blue B, Victoria pure blue BO, Toluidine blue O, Luxol brilliant green BL, Disperse blue 1, Brilliant blue R, Victoria blue R, Quinea green B, Thionin, Meldolas blue, Lissamine green B, Alkali blue 6B, Brilliant green, Spirit soluble HLK BASF, Victoria green S extra, Acid violet 17, Eriochrome black T, Eriochrome blue black B, D & C green no. 2, Spirit soluble fast RR, Spirit soluble fast red 3B, D & C red no. 22, Nitro red, Congo red, Brilliant cresyl blue ALD, Arsenazo 1, Basic red 29, Bismarck brown R, Methylene violet, Methylene violet 3RAX, Mordant brown 1, Reactive black 5, Mordant brown 48, Acid brown AX987, Acid violet AX990, Basic red 15, Mordant red 19, Bromopyrogallol red, and combinations thereof.